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Green forage and silage nutritive value of double purpose winter species

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Key words: wheat, triticale, rye, oat, barley

Introduction Adequate animal nutrition is essential to high animal yield, reproduction efficiency, and profitability. This work aims to evaluate nutritive value of fourteen cool-season genotypes as pasture or silage.

Material and methods The trial was conducted at Agronomy research station in Passo Fundo, Brazil. A randomized complete block design replicated three times. The plots were composed by seven rows 0.2 m apart and 5.0 m long. Seeding date was April from 2003 to 2005. The fertilizer applied was 250 kg/ha of 5-25-25 (N-P₂O₅-K₂O) plus 30 kg N/ha (urea) at tillering and after the harvest. The plants with 30-cm height average were clipped to a 7.0-cm stubble height. Nutritive value analyzed using near infrared spectroscopy (NIRS).

Results The forage nutritive value on green tissue harvested was high. The average CP concentration was 22.8% and the digestibility was 69.1% (Table 1). The silage decreased CP concentration to 8.9% and the digestibility to 61.5% (Table 1).

Table 1 Crude protein (CP), neutral detergent fiber (NDF), acid detergent fiber (ADF), and dry matter digestibility (DMD) concentration (%) of winter cereals.

Winter cereals	Green forage				Silage			
	CP	NDF	ADF	DMD	CP	NDF	ADF	DMD
Oat UPF 18	21.5 efg	50.0 e	23.0 gh	71.0 ab	9.5 abc	58.3 h	32.0	64.0 ab
Oat IPFA 99009	24.0 abc	52.1 b-e	24.9 c-f	69.5 c-f	10.9 a	65.1 bcd	37.1 ab	60.0 de
Oat Agro Zebu	25.0 a	50.6 de	23.6 fgh	70.5 abc	10.2 ab	67.3 ab	39.4 a	58.2 e
Rye BR 1	23.3 bcd	52.9 a-d	24.7 d-g	69.7 b-e	8.3 cd	69.2 a	39.0 a	58.5 e
Rye BRS Serrano	22.5 c-f	52.3 b-e	25.2 b-f	69.3 c-g	9.0 bcd	66.7 abc	37.3 ab	59.8 de
Barley BRS 195	21.0 fg	50.7 cde	26.6 abc	68.2 fgh	8.3 cd	59.3 gh	31.9 e	64.1 a
Barley BRS 224	20.8 g	52.9 a-d	27.7 a	67.3 h	7.8 d	61.4 fg	31.8 e	64.1 a
Barley BRS 225	22.5 c-f	53.2 abc	26.4 a-d	68.3 e-h	8.9 bcd	61.0 fgh	33.0 de	63.2 ab
Trit.* BRS 148	22.8 b-e	53.8 ab	24.3 e-h	70.0 a-d	8.1 cd	66.1 a-d	35.6 bc	61.2 cd
Trit. BRS 203	24.2 ab	52.9 a-d	25.8 b-e	68.8 d-g	8.3 cd	64.7 b-e	36.4 bc	60.5 cd
Trit. Embrapa 53	23.2 bcd	53.9 ab	22.7 h	71.2 a	9.3 bcd	63.4 def	33.9 cde	62.5 abc
Wheat BRS Figure**	23.7 abc	55.2 a	27.9 a	67.2 h	8.8 bcd	61.6 efg	34.5 bc	62.1 bc
Wheat BRS Umbu	23.4 a-d	53.6 ab	26.8 ab	68.1 gh	8.0 cd	64.6 b-e	35.6 bc	61.2 cd
Wheat PF 990423	21.8 d-g	49.9 e	25.6 b-e	69.0 d-g	9.0 bcd	63.9 c-f	35.5 bc	61.2 cd
Média	22.8	52.4	25.4	69.1	8.9	63.8	35.2	61.5

Values within a column followed by the same letter are not different ($P > 0.05$) by Duncan.
Trit. = triticale ** Figure = Figueira

Conclusion It is possible to get precocious forage during late fall and harvest again for silage of winter species such as oat, rye, barley, triticale, and wheat special genotypes.